

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Novel derivatives of cell surface proteins which are homologous
to the immunoglobulin superfamily (adhesons) are provided. Amino
acid sequence variations are introduced into the adheson, the most
noteworthy of which are those in which the transmembrane and,
preferably, cytoplasmic domains are rendered functionally inactive,
and in which adheson extracellular domains replace an immunoglobulin
10 variable region. These variants are useful in therapy or
diagnostics, in particular, CD4 variants are therapeutically useful
in the treatment of HIV infections.